

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 3-6.

Please add claims 15-26.

Please amend the claims to read as indicated herein.

1. (Currently amended) A mounting arrangement for at least one optical component in a planar lightwave circuit, the arrangement comprising:
a substrate,
an input optical fiber associated with said substrate,
an output optical waveguide in a given set of planar layers of said substrate, ~~and~~
said at least one optical component being mountable on said substrate to transmit optical radiation from said input optical fiber to said output optical waveguide,
and

~~wherein the arrangement comprises one of:~~

a length of optical waveguide on said substrate in the same planar layers of said output optical waveguide, said length of optical waveguide being interposed between said input optical fiber and said at least one optical component so that said at least one optical component ~~can be~~ is interposed between said length of optical waveguide and said output optical waveguide, ~~and~~

~~a length of optical fiber associated to said substrate between said at least one optical component and said output optical waveguide so that said at least one optical component can be interposed between said input optical fiber and said length of optical fiber.~~

2. (Previously presented) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein said substrate is a silicon optical bench (SiOB) support.

3-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein said output optical waveguide and said length of optical waveguide are aligned along an input-to-output propagation path.

8. (Currently amended) The arrangement of claim 7, wherein said respective end surfaces being are offset to the perpendicular to said input-to-output propagation path, the propagation path of radiation through said at least one optical component (14, 16, 18) is at an angle with respect to said main input-to-output propagation path.

9. (Previously presented) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein said at least one optical component comprises an optical isolator.

10. (Previously presented) The arrangement of claim 9, wherein said optical isolator is optimised for focused beams.

11. (Previously presented) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein said at least one optical component comprises an optical filter.

12. (Previously presented) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein said at least one optical component comprises at least one spherical or ball lens.

13. (Previously presented) The arrangement of claim 12, wherein said substrate comprises at least pyramidal hole for receiving said at least one spherical or ball lens.

14. (Previously presented) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein said at least one optical component comprises a symmetrical optical system having an internal image.

15. (New) A mounting arrangement for at least one optical component in a planar lightwave circuit, the arrangement comprising:

a substrate,
an input optical fiber associated with said substrate,
an output optical waveguide in a given set of planar layers of said substrate,
said at least one optical component being mountable on said substrate to transmit optical radiation from said input optical fiber to said output optical waveguide,
and

a length of optical fiber associated to said substrate between said at least one optical component and said output optical waveguide so that said at least one optical component is interposed between said input optical fiber and said length of optical fiber.

16. (New) The arrangement of claim 15, wherein said substrate is a silicon optical bench (SiOB) support.

17. (New) The arrangement of claim 15, wherein said substrate comprises at least one V-groove for receiving at least one of said input optical fiber and said length of optical fiber.

18. (New) The arrangement of claim 17, wherein said substrate comprises respective V-grooves for receiving said input optical fiber and said length of optical fiber, respectively, said respective V-grooves having the same geometry.

19. (New) The arrangement of claim 15, wherein said input optical fiber is associated with said substrate and said length of optical fiber, and wherein said input optical fiber and said length of optical fiber are from the same fiber batch.

20. (New) The arrangement of claim 15, wherein said input optical fiber and said length of optical fiber have respective end surfaces, said respective end surfaces comprising an anti-reflective coating.

21. (New) The arrangement of claim 15, wherein said at least one optical component comprises an optical isolator.

22. (New) The arrangement of claim 21, wherein said optical isolator is optimised for focused beams.

23. (New) The arrangement of claim 15, wherein said at least one optical component comprises an optical filter.

24. (New) The arrangement of claim 15, wherein said at least one optical component comprises at least one spherical or ball lens.

25. (New) The arrangement of claim 24, wherein said substrate comprises at least pyramidal hole for receiving said at least one spherical or ball lens.

26. (New) The arrangement of claim 15, wherein said at least one optical component comprises a symmetrical optical system having an internal image.